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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20
IO-14 ACDA-12 /103 W
----------091055 280636Z /11
R 271111Z JUL 78
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7361
AMEMBASSY BONN
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

UNCLAS USBERLIN 1776

E O 11652: NA
TAGS: PGOV BQG SOPN GE UR WB
SUBJ: FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER IN INTERVIEW ON GERMAN TELEVISION
ON BERLIN ITEMS

REF: USBER 1557

1. MISSION NOTICED ITEMS IN WEST BERLIN PRESS OF JULY 13 ON
INTERVIEW WHICH FRENCH FONMIN DE GUIRINGAUD ACCORDED TO
ARD WEST GERMAN TV NETWORK ON JULY 12 DURING WHICH DE GUIRINGAUD
TOOK ISSUE WITH SEVERAL POINTS MADE BY ABRASIMOV IN HIS JUNE 26
INTERVIEW WITH ARD (REFTEL).

2. WE HAVE OBTAINED TRANSCRIPT OF INTERVIEW FROM FRENCH
MISSION HERE AND PROVIDE FOLLOWING INFORMAL TRANSLATION FROM
ORIGINAL FRENCH TEXT OF SECTIONS RELEVANT TO BERLIN:
BEGIN TEXT:
QUESTION: MR. MINISTER, THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO THE GDR
ABRASIMOV FOR THE (WORD GARBLED) TIME HAS RECENTLY
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OPPOSED BERLIN PARTICIPATION IN THE EUROPEAN ELECTION
AND ALSO THE FACT THAT THE GOVERNING MAYOR OF BERLIN
WOULD BECOME PRESIDENT OF THE BUNDESRAT ACCORDING TO
NORMAL SEQUENCE. ABRASIMOV THINKS THAT THIS WOULD BE
A CHANGE OF STATUS AND WOULD BE AGAINST THE LETTER AND
THE SPIRIT OF THE QA. AS A SIGNATORY OF THE ACCORD
WHAT DOES FRANCE SAY ABOUT THIS SOVIET CONCEPTION?

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ANSWER: WE THINK THAT IT IS NOT THE FIRST TIME THAT
THE GOVERNING MAYOR OF BERLIN WILL BE PRESIDENT OF THE
BUNDESRAT. THIS HAS ALREADY HAPPENED IN THE CASE OF
WILLY BRANDT. THEREFORE IT SHOULD NOT BE FORGOTTEN THAT
THERE IS NO INNOVATION. AS FAR AS CONCERNS THE PARTICIPA-
TION OF BERLIN IN THE ELECTIONS TO THE ASSEMBLY OF THE
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, WE HAVE TOLD THE SOVIETS REPEATEDLY
WHAT OUR POSITION WAS: THIS DOE NOT APPEAR TO US IN
CONTRADICTION WITH THE QA UNDER THE CONDITIONS WHICH
ARE FORESEEN. WE WILL REPLY TO THE STATEMENT OF MR.
ABRASIMOV BY USUAL DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS AND WE THINK
THAT THESE MATTERS CAN BE ARRANGED (SE REGLER). WE
VALUE THE QA JUST AS MUCH AS THE SOVIETS.

QUESTION: ERIK HONECKER, PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF
STATE OF THE GDR, RECENTLY ASSERTED THIS AGREEMENT OF THE
FOUR POWERS WAS VALID ONLY FOR WEST BERLIN AND ALL THE
REST THAT PEOPLE HAVE MENTIONED TO HIM (ABOUT THE QA)
IN HIS OPINION IS ONLY EMPTY WORDS. CONCERNING THIS
AGREEMENT, IS IT AN AGREEMENT FOR ALL OF BERLIN THAT IS
"GREATER BERLIN"?
ANSWER: WHEN I WAS IN BERLIN A YEAR AND ONE-HALF AGO
I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO REAFFIRM THAT IN OUR VIEW THE
QA IS VALID FOR ALL OF BERLIN AND IN ADDITION, INSPITE
OF THE STATEMENTS TO WHIRH YOU ALLUDE, THERE ARE IN
REALITY EXAMPLES WHICH SHOW CLEARLY THAT THE
UNCLASSIFIED

AUTHORITIES WHICH EXIST IN THE EASTERN PART OF BERLIN
RECOGNIZE THE VALIDITY OF THE QA, EXAMPLES SUCH AS THE
PATROLS OF THE WESTERN POWERS WHICH MOVE IN THE EASTERN
PART OF BERLIN.GEORGE

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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TAGS: PGOV, SOPN, GC, UR, WB, BQG
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